

HUGE AUSTRIAN GUN TRAINED ON RUSS POSITIONS NEAR WARSAW



At the right is seen one of the large Austrian 30.5 cm. guns which were used with such great effect against the Russian positions in the vicinity of Warsaw. At the left several soldiers are seen carting a 500-pound shell along the wooden plank tracks to be loaded into the gun. These Austrian guns are similar in construction to the 42 centimetre Krupp guns used by the Germans.

MICHIGAN WANTS MORE APPLE TREES

Cadillac, Mich.—County Agent James F. Zimmer is beginning the second campaign to have apple trees planted in this section of the state, says a special to the Grand Rapids Press. Last spring more than 25,000 trees were secured at a cost of 10 cents a tree and sold to farmers in Oscoda, Missaukee and Wexford counties. A number of wealthy Cadillac men contributed to an "apple tree" fund so that trees might be sold to farmers at less than cost. It is hoped to put out 50,000 trees this year.

ARMY WORM CAN DO LITTLE HARM THIS YEAR

Natural Enemy, Tachina Fly, to Check Pest.

East Lansing, Mich.—The army worm, in the opinion of M. A. C. men, is conquered and will not return this summer to ravage Michigan farms. This view is taken as a result of the belief that the tachina fly, the natural parasitic enemy of the worm, has increased sufficiently in numbers to hold the marauding worms in check when they hatch during the warm weather months.

"It may be years before we get such another plague as that of last year," said Dr. G. D. Shaffer, assistant professor of entomology. "Of course the army worm is always with us, but under normal conditions is held in check by the parasite. If the worm comes, the farmers will also know how to treat him before any damage is done."

The tachina fly lays its eggs in the worm. The eggs hatch and the larva feed off the living worm, which finally rolls over and dies.

TRADE NOTES

Bahia Blanca, A. R.—The sheep breeders' show at Villa Bordeau proved the most complete event of its kind ever held in Southern Argentina.

Guatemala City.—Japan and then China and Germany have been the leading countries in supplying Guatemala with fireworks. Novelties find a ready market here.

Para, Brazil.—Although the rubber gatherers are paid about half as much for their work as formerly, food articles can now be purchased for one-half the prices.

San Salvador, Salvador.—English candies are in greatest demand here because they are packed attractively and so as to best withstand the tropical climate.

Bogota, Columbia.—The wireless station at Cartagena has been ordered closed while the European war is in progress. The decree was issued from the interior department of Bolivar.

Buenos Aires, A. R.—Two sailing vessels from Boston are due at this port with big cargoes of spruce and pine lumber. The ships are expected to load with Argentine products.

Guayaquil, Ecuador.—Charles F. Baker, the United States vice-consul at this port and also deputy consul-general, is visiting various cities in the north for the purpose of telling about trade conditions in this republic.

Havana, Cuba.—The new coins to be used by the federal government will be minted in Philadelphia for the account of the National Bank of Cuba.

FRENCH TRENCHES IN GERMAN STYLE

Lieutenant of Engineers Concedes the Kaiser's Defenses are Superior to All Others

Paris (by mail).—French military men are willing to admit in private that they have learned many lessons from the Germans. Few, however, are as frank as a Lieutenant of Engineers interviewed in Paris.

"I have been engaged since the beginning of the war," he said, "in constructing second line trenches, on which the allied forces can fall back in the event of repulse. At first we dug our trenches in accordance with plans that had been carefully worked out by the war department and were believed to be the last word in the sapper's art. But after a few of the

German defenses had been captured we began to ask ourselves whether we had ever known our business. The German trenches were infinitely superior to ours. They were at the same time elaborate and simple—elaborate in the protection they afforded the men who had to defend them, yet easy to construct when one had acquired the knack. A notable feature was the system of wooden supports, which made possible the excavation of subterranean chambers for the housing of officers and wounded.

"We were not flattered, I can assure you, to find how badly we had been beaten at our own game. But we decided to put our pride in our pockets and get the full benefit of the object lesson that the fortunes of war spread before our eyes. We commenced to imitate the German trenches slavishly. Today the French army from one end of the line to the other is digging its trenches a la Kaiser, fighting behind Teutonic earthworks, and the result has been a decrease in casualties.

"But this scientific war of moles has led to a deadlock. I do not see how we shall ever be able to drive the enemy from their positions or how they can dislodge us. The loss of life to the attacking forces would be too great. I believe that when the time is ripe the Allies will commence a voluntary retreat. The Germans will pursue us and battle will be delivered in the open country. Fighting on our own soil, we should win, as we did at the battle of the Marne. That is the only way in which the present intolerable situation can be ended."

The same officer confirmed the rumors to the effect that the Germans had prepared military defenses in France before the war. "I have seen many gun platforms," he said, "on property that had been acquired by the Germans. On the premises of a cement company we found a series of trenches at least a year old. They were on the line of the German advance on Paris."

HELD AS SUSPECT IN MURDER CASE



Clarence Burke.

Clarence Burke, ex-convict and "dope" fiend, is being held by the Aurora (Ill.) police as a suspect in the Emma Peterson murder case. Burke has been booked on a charge of "vagrancy," but the chain of circumstances connecting him with the murder is unusually strong and is being run down by the police.

Africa's Prophecies.

A prophetic, believed by the natives to be a spirit able to put on a mortal shape when a cessary, has arisen in Swaziland, Africa, and under her orders the people are getting rid of all white things in the country. White goats, white fowls, white vessels for domestic use—all are being disposed of. The natives believe that when everything else white has been disposed of the white men will disappear.

AS ALLIES NEAR CONSTANTINOPLE MORGENTHAU'S TASK GROWS HARDER



Ambassador Henry Morgenthau at his desk in Constantinople.

As the allied fleets approach Constantinople the work of Henry Morgenthau, American ambassador to Turkey, becomes more difficult. Morgenthau is looking after the interests of the allied nations in the Ottoman capital as well as those of America. Fears have been expressed that when it becomes certain the city cannot be saved, excited mobs will seek to destroy the property of English, French and Russians in Constantinople.

"THE STATE AND THE CITIZEN"

John A. Slescher, in Leslie's
It is indeed important that all the sense of justice and all the intelligence which our population of nearly a hundred millions possesses should be brought to bear upon the public policies of the nation. But how is this to be done? Is it to be done by an appeal to the unguided will of the people, without precise knowledge of the matters involved, but intensified by class and sectional prejudice? Or is it to be done by an appeal to the reason of the people, after competent masters of the subjects to be considered have made their reports upon them, and these have been subjected to comparison, debate, and deliberate examination by those who have formed definite opinions regarding them?

There would seem to be but one reasonable answer to this question. The plain duty of every citizen is, first, to instruct himself; then to try to fix in his mind the principles by which the common good may be most clearly promoted; and, finally, in a spirit of patriotism to place his influence at the service of those principles.

There are, no doubt, many new directions in which public policies are yet to be formed, and there are many questions which are ripe for discussion. There are forms of social justice which seem to force themselves upon our attention, and we cannot without delinquency neglect them; but the question may be fairly asked, is there anything which, as a people, it would be right for us to do that cannot be done without a reconstruction of the State, and especially without radical changes in our fundamental law?

Believing that the vast majority of the American people wish to do right, and have always wished to do right, the answer to this question seems very simple. Until it is shown that there is some definite thing which we ought to do, but which we are prevented by our form of government from doing, we shall act wisely in adhering strictly to a system which has enabled us to make progress—singularly rapid and permanent progress—toward the highest ideals that our people have ever at any time entertained.—David Jayne Hill, in The North American Review.

The Lack of Smiles.

Personal impressions are always interesting, and I find myself unconsciously asking foreigners the oft-repeated question: "What is the thing that impresses you most?" A returned traveler who had been absent from America for many years, was relating some entertaining incidents concerning his life in South America. It was all very interesting, but his group of auditors, almost in a chorus, demanded: "What impressed you most on your return to America after eight years? What do you find different among the people?"

His face sobered a minute and he said, "I'll tell you. It is the lack of smiles. It seems to me there are fewer smiling people than when I went away. They don't seem to have the art of smiling, since the use of the telephone came into effect and the rushing about on the street railways and subways and looking aloft for the flight of airplanes. I went away with the impression that the American knew how to smile. Now you only cackle."

This remark set the little group of friends to thinking and looking for causes. Have these years of exalted prosperity so absorbed the conscious and unconscious thought of the people that they have forgotten how to smile?

"The eyes do not have the twinkle," continued the speaker, "that they had in other days. They greet you with a hard, lack-lustre look. Even your friends ask you, before you have hardly exchanged greetings, as to how much you have made, showing the hard-fisted commercial tendencies of the times. The joy and zest of just doing things does not seem to have come with the shortened hours of labor. The listlessness of big, strong men doing work that does not require either physical or mental activities is evaporating a lot of the initiative force of the country."

REFLECTIONS OF A BACHELOR.

Girls can exercise a lot of influence over men by not marrying them.

A woman can rule her husband without being able to do it to the children.

Telling the truth is not so difficult; it's not telling a lie instead that is so hard.

People will ask you to let them do you a favor when they wouldn't do it if you asked them to.

Lots of women are ashamed to have their husbands so unartistic they can't help being successful.

A great man doesn't feel he needs flattery; he feels he can afford to give it.

If a man is rolling a barrel down hill he can growl because it isn't shorter.

A man fond of boasting health and wealth stands a better chance of losing both.

The most that any one can hope to get out of life is a sure introduction to death.

A man who thinks his wife ought to make her own hats would have a fit if she offered to make his ties.

A woman could give her children a lot of training if their father did not need so much.

There's hardly any kind of fool equal to the man who thinks he was different when he was a boy from what they are now.

A man can get mad at an inanimate object like a piece of furniture, but he has to take it out on somebody in the family.

TOO MUCH OXYGEN DANGEROUS

From The American Mechanist.
In a recent publication of the Smithsonian Institution it is claimed that a diminished amount of oxygen is harmful. A noted health resort in the Alps the barometer stands at such a height that the concentration of oxygen is far less than in the most ill-ventilated room. One of the unfortunate results of this fallacy is that the laws regarding ventilation of mines insist on a high percentage of oxygen, and thereby increase the danger of mine explosions. Finally, the widespread belief in the presence of an organic poison in expired air is equally erroneous. The smells of crowded rooms and the like are no indication that the air is deleterious. "The deaths in the Black Hole of Calcutta, the depression, headache, etc., in close rooms, are alike due to heat stagnation; the victims of the Black Hole died of heat stroke." This is a rather more than is likely to be readily accepted.

It is also said that the chemical content of the air in crowded places has nothing to do with its ill effect; that apart from the influence of infecting bacteria, the ventilation problem is one of temperature, of relative humidity and of air movement. The percentage of carbon dioxide in the worst ventilated room does not rise above 0.5, or, at most, 1 per cent, whereas the normal concentration of carbon dioxide in the lungs is from 5 to 6 per cent of an atmosphere. A great many experiments and observations are adduced to prove that percentages regarded as deleterious or deadly by hygienists are quite harmless.

THE BORROWER

By WALT MASON (From Judge.)

"The smile that's worn by neighbor Gregg beats all the smiles in town, and when he comes to pull my leg I cannot turn him down. He surely has a winning way that no one can resist; and so he works me, day by day, and always will, I wist.

Ah, to my sorrow he comes to borrow A clothesline and a rug.

My peagreen sweater, my gun and set-ter,

A fishpole and a jug.

He tells me that the country needs in office men of brain; I am a rose among the weed, a man supremely sane. He says I stand above the ruck, gigantic, noble, grand, and politics would be in luck if I would take a hand.

Then to my horror, he tries to borrow My driving horse and rig.

My motorcycle, so help me Michael, Then milk cow and the pig.

He says the speech I made last night left Bryan at the post; as orator I am all right, the city's pride and boast. He says, "Your burning words will live while waves beat on the beach; not even Cero gave the people such a speech!"

And then, by gorry, he asks to borrow A pair of fountain pens.

The works of Lytton, a cat and kitten, A rooster and three hens.

He says that I would rise to fame by any route I'd choose, for I'd excel at any game that human beings use. A better chrome I could paint than e'er was seen in Rome; I'd make the shade of Milton faint, if I should write a poem. As scientist I'd beat them all, invention I'd adore; from Edison I'd take a fall, and laugh the Wrights to scorn. I know while Gregg is talking thus, just what he has in view; but he is such a cheerful cuss I wait till he gets through. I know his purpose fell and dark, I know his talk is bunk; and yet I'm such an easy mark I let him have the junk.

To-day, to-morrow, he comes to borrow

The hinges from my door;

My new steel skillet, and meat to fill it,

The hat my father wore.

Time's Changes.

When the "old schoolboys" studied geography they were familiar with a blank space on the map known as the Great American Desert, a hopeless region. Now the best apples in the United States are raised there.

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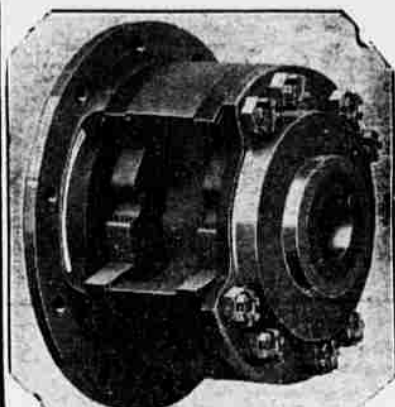
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